

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-29. (canceled)

30. (currently amended) A method for illuminating viruses in a circulatory blood, comprising adding an anticoagulant into whole blood establishing a circulation system; separating the whole blood containing the anticoagulant into plasma and from the blood cells; mixing photosensitizer methylene blue with the plasma by a peristaltic pump to enable an interaction between the photosensitizer methylene blue and at least one virus in the plasma; ~~and~~ illuminating the photosensitizer methylene blue-plasma mixture with a LED for 60 seconds; filtering the photosensitizer methylene blue-plasma mixture by passing the mixture through a filter comprising attapulgate to remove the photosensitizer methylene blue; and mixing the filtered plasma with the separated blood cells to reconstitute whole blood and transfusing the reconstituted whole blood into the circulation system.

31-35. (canceled)

36. (previously presented) The method of claim 30, wherein the whole blood is obtained from a blood station, blood bank, blood bag, blood storage device, or freshly isolated from a patient.

37. (currently amended) The method of claim 30, wherein the virus is ~~hepatitis B virus, hepatitis C virus, human immunodeficiency virus, SARS-associated coronavirus, vesicular stomatitis virus, or Sindbis virus.~~

38. (currently amended) The method of claim 30 ~~31~~, wherein 99.99% of the viruses in the blood are removed.